

Birmingham City Council
Cabinet Member(s) Health and Social Care,
Finance & Resources, jointly with the Director for
Public Health



20th June 2019

Subject: APPROVAL OF THE EXTENSION OF THE
CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF HIV AND TB
SUPPORT SERVICES

Report of: Public Health Commissioning

Relevant Cabinet Member: Cllr Paulette Hamilton - Health and Social Care
Cllr Tristan Chatfield - Finance & Resources

Relevant O &S Chair(s): Cllr Rob Pocock - Health & Social Care
Cllr Sir Albert Bore - Resources

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Are specific wards affected?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – All wards affected
If yes, name(s) of ward(s):		
Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, add Forward Plan Reference:		
Is the decision eligible for call-in?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Cabinet approved the contract award for the provision of HIV and TB Support services to Swanswell Trust on the 15th April 2016. This was Lot 7 of the Integrated Prevention Services procurement exercise.
- 1.2 The Tender Strategy of 20th October 2015 approved award of contracts for a period of three years from 1st July 2016 with a potential extension for a further 2 years subject to satisfactory performance and future budget availability.

- 1.3 The Tender Strategy of 20th October 2015 delegated authority to the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care and Cabinet Member for Commissioning, Contracting & Improvement, together with the Strategic Director for People to extend the contracts.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 To approve a nine-month extension of the contract for the provision of HIV and TB Support services to Swanswell Trust. The extension to commence from 1st July 2019.
- 2.2 To approve a reduced contract value for the extension period in line with Public Health Grant efficiencies. The value of the contract extension will be £108,551.

3 Background

- 3.1 The HIV and TB Support Service contract commenced on 1st July 2016 for a period of three years to 30th June 2019 and at an annual cost of £255,520. The value of the current contract year (year three) is £250,520.
- 3.2 At the time of contract approval, the option to extend for a further two years was granted, however, the Council Budget Consultation 2019/20+ included a proposal to decommission the HIV/TB Support Service at contract end on 30th June 2019. Following consultation, the Director for Public Health agreed that the contract should be extended to allow time to complete work required to ensure that support continues via other pathways.
- 3.3 The service will continue to support individuals diagnosed with HIV and TB, including those with no recourse to public funds, who require intensive support to access housing, welfare benefits, immigration support and other health services such as substance misuse services, mental health services; Primary Care and sexual health services, enabling individuals to adhere to HIV and TB treatment. Support will also continue to be offered to mothers who are diagnosed with HIV and require formula milk to prevent onward transmission of HIV through breastfeeding to infants aged up to 12 months.
- 3.4 During this nine-month period, commissioners will work with the current peer support group (Safe Space) to help develop a peer mentoring service. Support will extend to individuals with less intensive needs and will to help to build confidence, particularly for those who are newly diagnosed with HIV, and tackle stigma associated with HIV; and Universal support services such as housing, benefits, immigration and mental health services, so that they are 'HIV and TB aware' and are able to respond to and manage people's needs in a sensitive and appropriate way.

4 Options considered and Recommended Proposal

- 4.1 The following options were considered:

Option 1: Do nothing and allow the contract to end on 30th June 2019. This option was rejected due to concerns about the safety and well-being of service users without accessible alternative support in place from universal services.

Option 2: Extend the current contract arrangements as is. This would not contribute to savings.

Option 3: Extend but with reduced investment and an element of service redesign as time limited measure to enable additional work to be done with partners to ensure longer term support being available.

The recommended proposal was option 3.

5 Consultation

- 5.1 A proposal to decommission the HIV & TB support service was included in the Council's Budget Consultation 2019+. To support this, additional consultation was carried out. Two Subject Matter Expert groups (HIV and TB) were established to share their views about the proposal and, moving forward to contract end, to act as reference groups. Group membership includes NHS clinicians, third sector and ASC specialist social workers. There were meetings with Positive West Midlands, Birmingham LGBT, Hawthorne House Patients Forum, ASC NRPF team, The Children's Trust Family Support and NRPF Heads of Service, and clinicians from the paediatric HIV clinic and the adult HIV clinic. Letters were sent to all registered service users to offer a range of ways in which they could share their views. Consultation ended on 31st January 2019.
- 5.2 Data gathered as part of the consultation included levels of support provided to service users diagnosed with HIV, TB and dual HIV-TB diagnoses. The numbers below are provided at 9th June 2019:

Support Provided	HIV		TB		HIV/TB		Total	
	Adults	Children (<18 yrs)	Adults	Children (<18 yrs)	Adults	Children (<18 yrs)	Adults	Children (<18 yrs)
Intensive support	53	1	4	0	0	0	57	1
Information, advice & guidance	54	57	0	0	0	0	54	57
Peer/group support	58	0	2	0	0	0	60	0
Total:	165	58	6	0	0	0	171	58

- 5.3 In summary, the consultation feedback supports continuation of allocation of formula milk for infants of HIV+ women, peer support services and specialist support for people affected by social stigma.

6 Risk Management

- 6.1 Financial – The available financial resources are identified through the Public Health Grant allocation for the extension period.
- 6.2 Contract Performance - monitoring through monthly contract review meetings and weekly reporting.

6.3 High level risks and mitigation are shown below:

Risk	Risk Level	Mitigating Actions	Risk Level
Contract extension with current provider: Insufficient capacity and resources to deliver contract extension	Low	(i) Contract extension is terminated sooner (ii) Service offer is reduced further (iii) work with universal services stepped up re training	Low
Universal services: Unable to provide a sensitive and appropriate response to meet the needs of individuals diagnosed with HIV/TB	Medium	Training/awareness raising with universal services to improve/enhance support offer	Medium

7 Compliance Issues

7.1 How are the recommended decisions consistent with the City Council's priorities, plans and strategies?

7.1.1 Aligns with the Birmingham City Council Plan: 2018-2022 Birmingham – a city of growth where every child, citizen and place matters. Specifically, Outcome 3 - Birmingham is a fulfilling city to age well in: we want citizens to live more active, longer, healthier and independent lives.

7.2 Legal Implications

7.2.1 The Council's powers as Adminstrating Authority for the Supporting People programme are in section 93 Local Government Act 2000. The Council may also exercise powers under the Care Act 2014 together with associated legislation and guidance.

7.2.2 Under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, a local authority has the power to take action which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of its functions and therefore has a general power to enter into contracts for the discharge of any of its functions.

7.3 Financial Implications

7.3.1 The contract extension to be funded through the Public Health Grant. Following negotiation, Swanswell Trust has agreed to continue to provide a service at a reduced rate.

7.3.2 Details of the extension value can be seen in the Exempt Information document (see Appendix 1).

7.4 Procurement Implications (if required)

7.4.1 The contract makes specific provision for an extension of up to two (2) years. There is no risk of a challenge to the extension being successful.

7.5 Human Resources Implications

7.5.1 No Birmingham City Council staff are affected.

7.6 Public Sector Equality Duty

7.6.1 Swanswell Trust is compliant with the public sector Equality Duty.

8 Appendices

8.1 Appendix 1 – Exempt Information.

9 Background Document

9.1 None.